



# THE LAKEHEAD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB JOURNAL

**November 2006**  
Volume 72 Issue 9

# HI-Q



VE3FW—LARC call sign



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- Next Meeting  
Thursday  
November 9, 2006  
at the McIntyre Building,  
Confederation College  
Room 191 at 7:30 pm
- 2006 - 2007 Membership  
DUES are NOW DUE
- Check into the LARC  
2 Meter ARES Net on YQT  
every Tuesday evening at  
7:00 pm local time

## APRS

What is it?  
What can we do with it?  
Do I have to be a techno-geek?

### Guest Speaker

Warren Paulson, **VE3FYN**

Will give us a great overview of this operating network  
at the **November 9 General Meeting**

Unfortunately, Warren was unable to make the last meeting, so we have  
another chance to attend and hear his presentation!

**This evolving technology may come to be a handy part of  
our Public Service network as well as ARES, etc.**

Come on out this Thursday and hear Warren's  
presentation on the basics of APRS and  
some of its possible uses!

**Don't miss this chance to hear the basics on how this system works!**

## LARC OPEN ACCESS REPEATERS

VE3YQT	Mount Baldy	147.060 (-600) Phone Patch
VE3TBR	St. Joseph's	146.820 (-600)
VE3BGA	Hillcrest H.S.	145.450 (-600) (IRLP Node VA3LU 123.0 Hz) 442.825 (+5 MHz) (100.0 Hz)
VE3UPP	Upsala	145.470 (-600)



## LARC October 12, 2006 MINUTES

Judy, VA3EAP



October 18, 2006

### Minutes of meeting October 12, 2006

Bill **VE3XT**, introduced our speaker for the evening, Doug McCormack, **VE3EFC**. Doug presented to us a program that he developed, Virtual Ionosphere for Amateur Radio. The program was hooked up to his computer and displayed on a screen for all of us to see. The program is available for all registered Hams at <http://qsonet.com/> ...try it, you'll like it!!! Thank you to Doug, it was a very informative presentation.

Meeting called to order by President Terry **VA3LU**. There were 28 members present.

Minutes of September 12 meeting - motion to accept Bob **VE3BHN**, seconded by John **VE3GTX**, motion carried.

**Financial report** presented by Terry **VA3LU**, motion to accept by Norm **VE3XRC**, seconded by David **VE3AVS**, motion carried.

### Committee reports

Equipment, Terry **VA3LU** - phone patch is fixed on **YQT** and also the time is re-set.

**ARES**, Randy **VA3OJ** - cheque was received from the Thunder Bay Fire Department to purchase emergency equipment to be used at Thunder Bay Regional Hospital and also to purchase a new controller for **YQT**.

A new antenna to be installed on Vickers Street Fire Hall (as back-up antenna). It will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> Command Post Disaster Site.

ARES registration forms, PLEASE send them in if you are interested. The sooner we get all interested people registered, the sooner we can have ARES training !!!

Randy thanked all Net Controllers for handling Tuesday Night Net during the summer, and thanks to all amateurs who took the time to call in.

**Public Service** - November 18, 2006, Christmas Parade - all operators in place.

**Old Business** - None

### New Business

Randy has equipment from **VE3RIM** Ian Mellis for sale. It will all be stored with Randy, so please call him if interested. It was donated by his wife Beth and monies to be donated to club.

Motion to adjourn David **VE3AVS**



## Last Meeting

Doug McCormack, **VE3EFC** gave an excellent presentation on 'QSO Net Virtual Ionosphere for Amateur Radio' at Octobers General Meeting.

Below is a description from his website  
<http://www.qsonet.com/>

**"QsoNet uses the internet to receive audio signals from a ham radio transmitting station, then instantly reflects the audio back to all stations listening on that frequency. There is no RF. Everything is done over the internet. The result is a simulated ionosphere for worldwide amateur radio communication. Stations can use either voice or CW modulation."**

*Quite the program, Doug! Thanks for a great presentation!*



Joe VE3TBX

## Lakehead Amateur Radio Club Treasurers Report

**Opening Balance - Oct. 5th, 2006** **\$ 5,284.54**

### Income

City of Thunder Bay - Radio Equip.	\$ 5,791.96
Memberships	\$ 300.00
Interest	\$ 0.04
	\$ -

**Total Income** **\$ 6,092.00**

### Expenses

Thunder Bay Telephone	\$ 45.75
Bank Service Fee	\$ 3.50

**Total Expenses** **\$ 49.25**

**Closing Balance - November 2nd, 2006** **\$ 11,327.29**

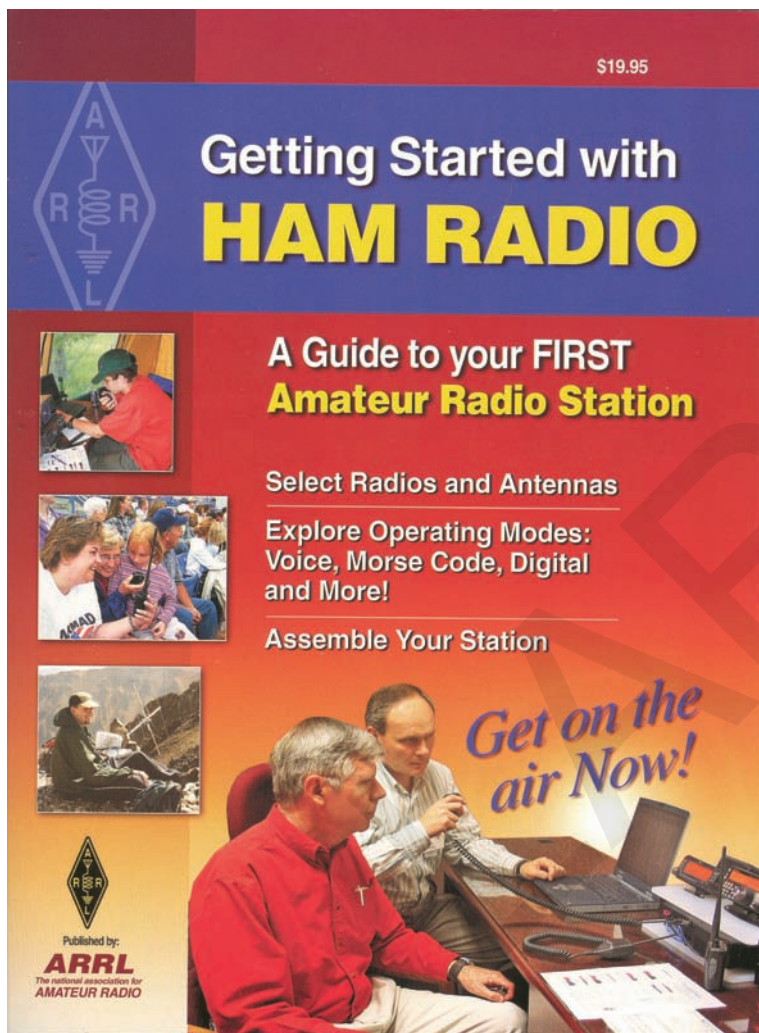
**Joe Coghlan - VE3TBX**  
**Treasurer**

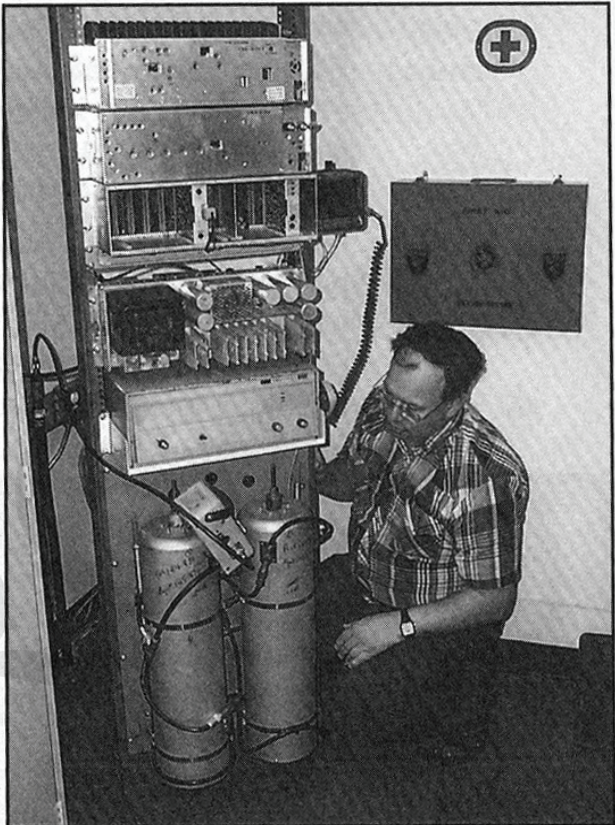




## Does Laurie, VE3BCD have a future as an actor 'ham' along with his ham radio hobby?

ARRL printed Laurie's photo and write up, as shown, in their newly released 'Getting Started with Ham Radio' publication by Steve Ford, **WB8IMY**.  
*Congratulations, Laurie! Your electronic experience is helping out more than just our Club!*





The repeater shown here, being tested by Laurie Bridgett, VE3BCD, is owned by the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club of Ontario, Canada. It is typical of many repeater systems. The large cylinders at the bottom are *duplexers*. They are extremely sharp filters that keep transmit and receive signals separate. Thanks to duplexers, a repeater can simultaneously receive and transmit from the same antenna without damaging sensitive circuits.

## Meet Your Executive - Mike Nawrocki VE3ZG Director



### A bit about Mike

Mike was first licenced in April 1957.

His first amateur operation was at Club Station VE4CQ in Fort Churchill, Man. 1960.

First Amateur call was VE4ZM 1964.

Became VE3ZG in Thunder Bay

about 1966.

Mike holds an Advanced Class license and also holds a Commercial - Second Class license.

### Usual operating modes

2M and HF.

### Favourite Operating Frequency

Mostly on 20M, but occasionally on 80, 40 and 10.

### Favourite part of ham radio

2 meters and HF, volunteering for public service events.



## Amateur News

### ARRL GRANTED EXPERIMENTAL LICENSE FOR 500 KHZ RESEARCH BY RADIO AMATEURS

The FCC's Office of Engineering and Technology on September 13 granted Part 5 experimental license WD2XSH to the ARRL on behalf of a group of radio amateurs interested in investigating spectrum in the vicinity of 500 kHz.

The two-year authorization permits experimentation and research between 505 and 510 kHz (600 meters) using narrowband modes at power levels of up to 20 W effective radiated power (ERP). ARRL Member Fritz Raab, W1FR, of Vermont, will serve as experimental project manager for "The 500 KC Experimental Group for Amateur Radio" <<http://www.500kc.com/>>

"I'm kind of excited to see how we can apply modern technology to a 'classic part' of the radio spectrum," Raab told ARRL this week. He pointed out that 500 kHz - the traditional maritime emergency frequency - is roughly geometrically halfway between the 136 kHz experimental band and the 160 meter amateur allocation.

"In contrast to 160 meters, 500 kHz is low enough to offer good groundwave propagation, but in contrast to 137 kHz it is high enough to allow us to engage in real communication with realistic equipment." Raab eventually would like to see at least a secondary 600-meter amateur allocation from 495 to 510 kHz.

"Besides the opportunities for experimenting at low frequencies, that frequency is well suited to regional groundwave communication," Raab said.

He envisions eventual use of the spectrum to provide Amateur Radio emergency communication via groundwave, without having to deal with the vagaries of the ionosphere or causing interference to other services.

For about a century, the 500 kHz region was an important band for maritime communication, emergency and otherwise. The band is occasionally used by "heritage" commercial maritime stations, such as the Maritime Radio Historical Society's KPH on the West Coast, on special occasions. 500 kHz remains designated as an official maritime emergency CW frequency, although the vast majority of maritime users have shifted to satellite-based systems.

In addition to experimentation and regional emergency work, Raab says he believes that the 505-510 kHz spectrum could serve as "an historic band"

that could support various commemorative special

event-type operations.

Proposals are under consideration in the UK and Ireland to establish an experimental Amateur Radio allocation in the vicinity of 500 kHz.

The WD2XSH project calls for operation from 21 discrete fixed sites spread throughout the US. Participants all are electrical professionals, many with maritime radio backgrounds, Raab said, adding that operation already has begun. The group eventually will be seeking reports from non-participants, he said.

Raab says the gear participants will use represents "every kind of antenna and equipment you can imagine," including surplus vacuum-tube maritime units. At his Colchester, Vermont, location he's using a 42-foot vertical, but others are employing inverted Ls, loops and Marconis, among others.

Raab was a co-author of the article "A 100-W Class-D Power Amplifier for LF and MF," which appeared in the March-April edition of QEX <<http://www.arrl.org/qex/2006/03/toc.pdf>>. He's using an amplifier of that design for his WD2XSH operations.

The FCC turned down a 1998 petition from the ARRL to create an Amateur Radio "sliver band" in the vicinity of 136 kHz, but some US amateur licensees have obtained FCC Part 5 Experimental licenses to research the possibilities of LF, including transatlantic and transpacific propagation. Amateur Radio licensees in Europe and elsewhere already have access to 135.7 to 137.8 kHz, and several hams in Canada have authorization to operate there using Amateur Radio call signs.

The ARRL Letter Vol. 25, No. 37 September 15, 2006

## Notes

### VE3AVS

I can't stand having magazines of any description pile up - after a few months they're fodder for the fireplace. When it comes to TCA, perhaps more of our LARC/RAC members could consider giving copies to newer members. When they see more of what the hobby is about perhaps they will commit to RAC memberships. Just a passing thought.....73 es cheers de ve3avs  
*ed note: Perhaps we can have this set up as part of our monthly meetings?*

### VA3OJ

Rick's Weather Station

<http://www.wunderground.com/weatherstation/WXDailyHistory.asp?ID=KMNGRAND5>





## Meet Your Executive - **Robert Hansen VE3RVA** Vice-President



### A bit about Robert

Robert was first licenced April 5, 1992

His current licence level is (basic, advanced) Basic 12 wpm license

### Usual operating modes

2M, HF, UHF, or whatever.  
2 meters from an Icom 275 H  
using a stacked 13 and 11

element beam antenna system. On 6 metres I use a  
Kenwood TS-690S into a 6 element beam antenna.

I use the same radio TS-690S for HF into a loop, TH5,  
and a MFJ vertical antenna

### Favourite Operating Frequency

I can be found on 40 meter band 7.063.50 MHZ Sandbox  
Net and on the Cross Canada Net Saturdays and Sun-  
days

### Favourite part of ham radio

VHF, projects, etc. My favourite part of Ham radio is H. F.  
I have also made many special friends who are also  
amateurs. I also enjoy going out on public service events.  
I am also involved in ARES and the Club's Mobile  
Communication Post.

## Our Newest Senators

Terry Stewardson, VA3LU accepts his new designation  
as LARC Senator during the Annual Supper in February of this year

**Presented by Robert VE3RVA**

*Ed Baumann VE3SNW was also honoured with the Senator position (picture not available)*



**Editors QSK...****ON  
THE WEB**

thanks to  
John,  
VE3EMI

**Some interesting Links****HIGH FREQUENCY ACTIVE  
AURORAL RESEARCH  
PROGRAM**

<http://www.harp.alaska.edu/>

**Tower Failure**

[http://www.ve1dx.net/fall\\_down.html](http://www.ve1dx.net/fall_down.html)

Well, winter is just around the corner and we will start settling inside more and hopefully turn to our favourite hobby, Ham Radio, as other lower priority distractions wind down!

This issue has an added a 'Meet Your Executive' feature throughout the pages. Two members have responded to an earlier request for some basic details of their hobby. I am still waiting for the remaining 6 executive members to reply!

Members with interests in different fields are invited to submit articles, news, interest, relating to their interests.

Do you follow articles in Amateur Radio publications? Do you browse TCA? QST? Operating Events? Contesting? Amateur News? Hi-Q needs your help in bringing or pointing to articles of interest and news to our members.

Unfortunately, my time is pretty well limited to editing and publishing Hi-Q,

so your input is critical to keeping our members up to date and informed!

Remember, we are a club, and each and every member is important to the well being and future of our hobby!

Thanks to all the contributors for this months Hi-Q! Your newsletter is only as good as we all make it!

...\_..

73, Leo VE3ATC

email: [ve3atc@spruce.ca](mailto:ve3atc@spruce.ca)

Ps. Not a writer and have a story or pictures? Contact me and I will help get it out!

Ps If you are interested in helping with Hi-Q publishing, offers are out to assist me with layout, content, reporting, etc. I guess this would be like a partner position. However, we can make up a great title for the position that will give you warm feelings all over! Contact me for further info!

**2006-2007  
MEMBERSHIP  
IS DUE !!!**

Fill out the attached  
Membership Form and  
be on the members list  
for Decembers issue!

Next regular meeting

**Thursday  
November 9, 2006**

McIntyre Building, Confederation  
College

Room 191

**7:30 pm**

Don't Forget to  
Check in !!

**LARC ARES  
2 Meter Net**



Every  
Tuesday at  
7:00 pm  
On YQT !!

**A BIT OF WIT – Pun.....** (Humorous use of a word in such a way as to suggest two or more of its meanings or the meaning of another word similar in sound)

- Energizer Bunny arrested - charged with battery.
- A pessimist's blood type - B-Negative.
- Practice safe eating - always use condiments.
- A Freudian slip - when you say one thing but mean your Mother.
- Shotgun wedding: A case of wife or death.
- Marriage is the mourning after the knot before.
- A hangover is the wrath of grapes.
- Corduroy pillows are making headlines.
- Sea captains don't like crew cuts.
- Does the name Pavlov ring a bell?

Tnx Jim VE3UA



## THE LAKEHEAD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB JOURNAL

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### LARC Website

<http://www.larclub.net>

### Hi-Q Editor and Publisher

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Leo VE3ATC 939-1020

Hi-Q is published monthly on the Sunday preceding the monthly meeting. Monthly meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month, except for July and August. Your submissions are welcome at any time. Submit early to ensure publication in next issue! Send to editor at [ve3atc@spruce.ca](mailto:ve3atc@spruce.ca)



LARC is a member of [RAC](#)

## LARC PUBLIC SERVICES

### ARES

#### District Emergency Coordinator

VE3FAL Fred Lesnick 577-0789

#### Emergency Coordinator

VA3OJ Randy Gottfred 474-0910

### CANWARN

VA3JMS John 767-3631

VE3MXJ Brad 767-0628

### PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

VE3MXJ Brad 767-0628

VA3JMS John 767-3631

### RAC

[Radio Amateurs of Canada](#)

## LARC SENATE

Keith Fiske

VE3JQ

Pat Doherty

VE3PD

Dave Kimpton

VE3AVS

Laurie Bridgett

VE3BCD

Terry Stewardson

VA3LU

Ed Baumann

VE3SNW

## LARC EXECUTIVE 2006—2007

### President

Terry Stewardson VA3LU 577-9439

### Vice-President

Bob Hansen VE3RVA 767-6924

### Secretary

Judy Artist VA3EAP

### Treasurer

Joe Coghlan VE3TBX 344-6566

### Directors

Brad Harris VE3MXJ 767-0628

Randy Gottfred VA3OJ 474-0910

Mike Nawrocki VE3ZG 767-1714

Bill Unger VE3XT 344-1848

### Past President

Jim Sacek VA3JMS 767-3631

## About LARC

Lakehead Amateur Radio Club members have all levels of interest and knowledge in the wide spectrum of amateur radio.

Monthly meetings and contact with other members allow us to share and discuss different ideas, and to learn from each other.

LARC membership meetings are held the second Thursday of each month, September through June  
at 7:30 PM local time at the  
McIntyre Building, Confederation College  
Room 191

Each meeting consists of a mix of technical and light-hearted topics, with a break for meeting friends and new friends.

Anyone with an interest in ham radio is invited to join us.

Amateur radio classes are also administered by LARC  
to help you with your Amateur Radio License

*contact any of the Executive members above for more information*



**2005/2006 MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL APPLICATION****LAKEHEAD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC****1100C MEMORIAL AVE, SUITE 184,  
THUNDER BAY, ONT P7B4A3****CLASS OF MEMBERSHIP****FULL MEMBERSHIP \$35.00-open only to licensed amateurs****NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ **EMAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_ **CITY** \_\_\_\_\_**TELEPHONE:** (     ) \_\_\_\_\_ **POSTAL CODE** \_\_\_\_\_**MAY WE PUBLISH THE PHONE NUMBER yes / no****MAY WE DELIVER HI-Q BY E-MAIL? yes / no****CALL(S)** \_\_\_\_\_**FAMILY MEMBERSHIP- immediate family residing at the same address holding licenses.  
\$35.00 plus \$10.00 for each additional amateur.****NAMES AND CALLS**\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_**STUDENT MEMBERSHIP- \$15.00-open to persons enrolled full time in an education  
facility, list School and program** \_\_\_\_\_**ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP-\$20.00-upon approval of the Board and open to:****1)Non holders of an amateur radio license.****2)Licensed amateurs living outside the immediate Thunder Bay area or are unable to attend regular  
meetings of the club.****If you feel you qualify for associate membership, please indicate why, on a separate sheet, to be used  
by the Board to consider your application.****Please mail or bring this form to the next meeting with your cash or cheque for membership fees.****Cheques should be made payable to Lakehead Amateur Radio Club.****Applications and cheques can also be dropped off at the above address.**